

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the existing claims with the following set of claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 ‡,  
wherein said single wheel comprises a circumference, said  
circumference selected from a group consisting of a 12-inch  
circumference, a 16-inch circumference, a nineteen and two-  
tenths-inch circumference, and a 24-inch circumference.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18 ‡,  
wherein said housing comprises a sidewall, said sidewall  
comprising measuring notches for measuring linear distances.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18 ‡,  
wherein said housing comprises a sidewall comprising a length,  
said length selected from a group consisting of 1 1/2 inches,  
3 inches, 3 1/2 inches, and 5 1/2 inches.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18 7,  
wherein said housing comprises a first sidewall adjacently  
disposed to a second sidewall at an angle selected from a  
group consisting of 45 degrees and 90 degrees.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7,  
wherein said single wheel comprises a circumference, said  
circumference selected from a group consisting of a 12-inch  
circumference, a 16-inch circumference, an nineteen and two-  
tenths-inch circumference, and a 24-inch circumference.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7,  
wherein said housing comprises a sidewall, said sidewall  
comprising measuring notches for measuring linear distances.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7,  
wherein said housing comprises a sidewall comprising a length,  
said length selected from a group consisting of 1 1/2 inches,  
3 inches, 3 1/2 inches, and 5 1/2 inches.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7, wherein said housing comprises a 'P'-shape comprising a base wall disposed parallel to a work surface, a rear wall disposed ninety degrees from said base wall away from the work surface, a top wall disposed ninety degrees from said rear wall and parallel to said base wall, an angled wall disposed forty-five degrees from said top wall extending toward the work surface, and a front wall disposed forty-five degrees from said angled wall, wherein said front wall enables said housing to rest against a wall surface perpendicular to the work surface.

12-16 (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 4, wherein said squaring lip comprises a blind nail hole.

18. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, An apparatus for measuring distances, said apparatus comprising:

a housing that functions as a layout tool, said layout tool selected from a group consisting of a straight edge, a gauging block, a ruler, or a combination thereof, wherein said housing further comprises a truncated flat front wall, said

front wall enabling said housing to rest against a wall surface;

a single wheel, rotatably disposed within said housing,  
said single wheel comprising incremental line markers for  
measuring distances solely via revolution of said single  
wheel, wherein said incremental line markers enable  
measurement and display of distances based upon a fraction of  
a first revolution of said single wheel and optionally  
fractions of additional revolutions of said single wheel; and

a squaring lip, wherein said squaring lip is disposed on  
said housing, wherein said squaring lip comprises a string  
groove, and wherein said string groove comprises a 'U'-shaped  
longitudinal channel.

19. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 1,  
wherein said housing comprises an enlarged cutout, wherein  
said enlarged cutout permits a large portion of said single  
wheel to be exposed for contacting a workpiece, and wherein  
said enlarged cutout provides an additional viewing area for  
viewing said incremental line markers of said single wheel.

20. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7,  
wherein said squaring lip comprises a blind nail hole.

21. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 7, An~~  
apparatus for measuring distances, said apparatus comprising:

a housing comprising edges dimensioned and configured to  
correspond to the sizes and angles most often encountered  
during framing;

a single wheel rotatably disposed within said housing,  
said single wheel comprising incremental line markers for  
measuring distances; and

a squaring lip, wherein said squaring lip is disposed on  
said housing, wherein said squaring lip comprises a string  
groove, and wherein said string groove comprises a 'U'-shaped  
longitudinal channel.

22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21 7,  
wherein said housing comprises an enlarged cutout, wherein  
said enlarged cutout permits a large portion of said single  
wheel to be exposed for contacting a workpiece, and wherein

said enlarged cutout provides an additional viewing area for viewing said incremental line markers of said single wheel.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11,~~

An apparatus for measuring distances, said apparatus comprising:

a housing comprising edges dimensioned and configured to correspond to the sizes and angles most often encountered during framing;

a single wheel rotatably disposed within said housing, said single wheel comprising incremental line markers for measuring distances; and

a squaring lip, wherein said squaring lip is disposed on said housing,

wherein said housing comprises a 'P'-shape comprising a base wall disposed parallel to a work surface, a rear wall disposed ninety degrees from said base wall away from the work surface, a top wall disposed ninety degrees from said rear wall and parallel to said base wall, an angled wall disposed

forty-five degrees from said top wall extending toward the work surface, and a front wall disposed forty-five degrees from said angled wall, wherein said front wall enables said housing to rest against a wall surface perpendicular to the work surface, and

wherein said housing further functions as a gauging block, and wherein said front wall is disposed perpendicular to a workpiece surface when said single wheel of said apparatus is disposed upon the workpiece.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18  $\pm$ , wherein said housing further comprises plumb lines and roof pitches, and wherein said plumb lines comprise markings utilized to level said apparatus on a workpiece, and wherein said roof pitches comprise markings utilized to frame rafters and similar building components.